IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An organic electroluminescent element comprising:

a substrate having a first surface;

a first electrode ~~formed~~ located above the first surface of the substrate, ~~at least a surface of the first electrode having a multidimensionally meandering surface shape, the surface being opposite to the other surface facing the substrate~~ the first electrode having a first surface adjacent to the substrate and second surface opposite the first surface;

an emissive layer including an organic electroluminescent material, the emissive layer ~~formed along~~ located on the second surface of the first electrode and having a first surface adjacent to the first electrode and a second surface opposite the first surface~~, the surface of the first electrode having the multidimensionally meandering surface shape, both surfaces of the emissive layer having a multidimensionally meandering surface shape, one surface of the emissive layer facing the first electrode, the other surface of the emissive layer being opposite to the one surface facing the first electrode~~; and

a second electrode ~~formed above~~ located on the second surface of the emissive layer;

wherein the second surface of the first electrode has a multidimensionally meandering surface shape such that:

a cross-section of the second surface of the first electrode meanders, the cross-section being perpendicular to the first surface of the substrate,

any second cross-section of the second surface of the first electrode meanders in a way that differs from the meandering shape of the first cross-section, the second cross-section being parallel to the first cross-section, and

the first and second cross-sections meander in directions other than perpendicular to the substrate; and

wherein the first and second surfaces of the emissive layer have a multidimensionally meandering surface shape such that:

a cross-section of the emissive layer meanders, the cross-section being perpendicular to the first surface of the substrate,

any second cross-section of the emissive layer meanders in a way that differs from the meandering shape of the first cross-section, the second cross-section being parallel to the first cross-section, and

the first and second cross-sections of the emissive layer meander in directions other than perpendicular to the substrate.

2. (Currently Amended) The organic electroluminescent element according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of the emissive layer is ~~approximately~~ uniform.

3. Cancelled.

4. (Currently Amended) The organic electroluminescent element according to claim 1, wherein a first surface of the second electrode faces the emissive layer and has a multidimensionally meandering surface shape~~, the surface being on a side of the emissive layer~~ such that:

a cross-section of the first surface of the second electrode meanders, the cross-section being perpendicular to the first surface of the substrate,

any second cross-section of the first surface of the second electrode meanders in a way that differs from the meandering shape of the first cross-section, the second cross-section being parallel to the first cross-section, and

the first and second cross-sections meander in directions other than perpendicular to the substrate.

5. (Currently Amended) The organic electroluminescent element according to claim 2, wherein:

in each of six pairs of ~~cut sections~~ cross-sections of the organic electroluminescent element resulting from three ways of cutting thereof, an actual length of a meandering-shaped line of the emissive layer and a projected length of the meandering-shaped line meet the following Inequality 1, the three ways of cutting being perpendicular to the substrate and crossing each other at an angle of 60 degrees and at an arbitrary intersection point on the substrate, the projected length of the meandering-shaped line being a length of the meandering-shaped line projected onto a plane parallel to the substrate and projected from a direction perpendicular to the substrate:

$$\frac{\sum_{n=1}^{6}(\text{actual length of meandering shaped line of nth cut section})/(\text{its projected length})}{6} \geq 2 \quad \cdots (1).$$

6. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating an organic electroluminescent element comprising:

preparing a substrate;

~~a first electrode forming step for~~ forming a first electrode above ~~a~~ the substrate, the first electrode having a first surface adjacent to the substrate and a second surface opposite the first surface ~~a surface of the first electrode having a multidimensionally meandering surface shape surface, the surface being opposite to the other surface facing the substrate~~;

~~an emissive layer forming step of~~ forming an emissive layer above the second surface of the first electrode ~~by depositing an organic electroluminescent material approximately uniformly along the multidimensionally meandering surface of the first electrode, both surfaces of the emissive layer having a multidimensionally meandering surface shape, one surface of the emissive layer facing the first electrode, the other surface of the emissive layer being opposite to the one surface facing the first electrode~~; and

~~a second electrode forming step of~~ forming a second electrode above the emissive layer;

wherein the first electrode is formed by any of the following methods (A) to (D):

(A) dissolving and solidifying metal in an inert gas;

(B) removing a removable fiber from a lump of metal in which the removable fiber is mixed;

(C) etching the surface of a lump of metal; or

(D) pressure forming finely powdered metal;

and wherein the second surface of the first electrode has a multidimensionally meandering surface shape such that:

a cross-section of the second surface of the first electrode meanders, the cross-section being perpendicular to the first surface of the substrate,

any second cross-section of the second surface of the first electrode meanders in a way that differs from the meandering shape of the first cross-section, the second cross-section being parallel to the first cross-section, and

the first and second cross-sections meander in directions other than perpendicular to the substrate; and

wherein the emissive layer has a multidimensionally meandering surface shape such that:

a cross-section of the emissive layer meanders, the cross-section being perpendicular to the first surface of the substrate,

a second cross-section of the emissive layer meanders in a way that differs from the meandering shape of the first cross-section, the second cross-section being parallel to the first cross-section, and

the first and second cross-sections of the emissive layer meander in directions other than perpendicular to the substrate.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of fabricating an organic electroluminescent element according to claim 6, wherein ~~in the emissive layer forming step,~~ the organic electroluminescent material is deposited ~~approximately~~ uniformly along the multidimensionally meandering surface of the first electrode by means of electrolytic deposition.

8. (Currently Amended) A display device comprising:

a substrate;

an electronic circuit formed on the substrate; and

at least one organic electroluminescent element, light emission thereof being controlled via the electronic circuit, the organic electroluminescent element comprising:

a substrate;

a first electrode ~~formed~~ located above the substrate and having a first surface adjacent to the substrate and a second surface opposite the first surface~~, at least a surface of the first electrode having a multidimensionally meandering surface shape, the surface being opposite to the other surface facing the substrate~~;

an emissive layer including an organic electroluminescent material, the emissive layer formed along the second surface of the first electrode~~, the surface of the first electrode having the multidimensionally meandering surface shape, both surfaces of the emissive layer having a multidimensionally meandering surface shape, one surface of the emissive layer facing the first electrode, the other surface of the emissive layer being opposite to the one surface facing the first electrode~~; and

a second electrode ~~formed~~ located above the emissive layer;

wherein the second surface of the first electrode has a multidimensionally meandering surface shape such that:

a cross-section of the second surface of the first electrode meanders, the cross-section being perpendicular to the first surface of the substrate,

any second cross-section of the second surface of the first electrode meanders in a way that differs from the meandering shape of the first cross-section, the second cross-section being parallel to the first cross-section, and

the first and second cross-sections meander in directions other than perpendicular to the substrate; and

wherein the emissive layer has a multidimensionally meandering surface shape such that:

a cross-section of the emissive layer meanders, the cross-section being perpendicular to the first surface of the substrate,

any second cross-section of the emissive layer meanders in a way that differs from the meandering shape of the first cross-section, the second cross-section being parallel to the first cross-section, and

the first and second cross-sections of the emissive layer meander in directions other than perpendicular to the substrate.

9. (Currently Amended) A lighting system comprising a substrate, a voltage application wire ~~formed~~ located on the substrate, and at least one organic electroluminescent element electrically connected with the voltage application wire, the organic electroluminescent element comprising:

a substrate;

a first electrode ~~formed~~ located above the substrate, the first electrode having a first surface adjacent to the substrate and a second surface opposite the first surface ~~at least a surface~~

~~of the first electrode having a multidimensionally meandering surface shape, the surface being opposite to the other surface facing the substrate~~;

an emissive layer including an organic electroluminescent material, the emissive layer formed along the surface of the first electrode~~, the surface of the first electrode having the multidimensionally meandering surface shape, both surfaces of the emissive layer having a multidimensionally meandering surface shape, one surface of the emissive layer facing the first electrode, the other surface of the emissive layer being opposite to the one surface facing the first electrode~~; and

a second electrode ~~formed~~ located above the emissive layer;

wherein the second surface of the first electrode has a multidimensionally meandering surface shape such that:

a cross-section of the second surface of the first electrode meanders, the cross-section being perpendicular to the first surface of the substrate,

any second cross-section of the second surface of the first electrode meanders in a way that differs from the meandering shape of the first cross-section, the second cross-section being parallel to the first cross-section, and

the first and second cross-sections meander in directions other than perpendicular to the substrate; and

wherein the emissive layer has a multidimensionally meandering surface shape such that:

a cross-section of the emissive layer meanders, the cross-section being perpendicular to the first surface of the substrate,

any second cross-section of the emissive layer meanders in a way that differs from the meandering shape of the first cross-section, the second cross-section being parallel to the first cross-section, and

the first and second cross-sections of the emissive layer meander in directions other than perpendicular to the substrate.